

**Statement  
by  
Ambassador Bagher Asadi  
Chairman of the Group of 77  
(Islamic Republic of Iran)  
at the  
Resumed COP-6  
of the  
United Nations Framework Convention on  
Climate Change  
Bonn, 19 July 2001**

**Mr. President,  
Honourable Ministers,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

It is a great honour and distinct pleasure for the Chairman of the Group of 77 to have the opportunity to speak on behalf of the developing world at the resumed session of the Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. It is an historical gathering. Having left the Hague last November with a sense of disappointment and despair, we have finally arrived here after trekking along a rather rugged, winding road. But, we are here, in good shape and in one piece, and more reassuring, with renewed hope and vigour to finish the job left unfinished in the Hague.

**Mr. President,**

Before turning to practical aspects of our work here in the resumed COP-6, I deem it necessary to make, on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, a number of points, though of a general nature yet critical to the essence of this still on-going multilateral process on climate change. Ever since the new Republican Administration in the White

House made its policy pronouncements in March this year on the Kyoto Protocol, our approach and stance have been very clear and unambiguous. The Group of 77 and China considers the Protocol a valid international instrument and finds the American unilateral approach in taking distance from an international commitment unacceptable. Adoption of such a unilateral approach by the American Administration is a matter of grave concern; it is not only damaging to this process but also to other multilateral processes. As everybody remembers well, the approach and specific positions of the Group in this regard have been laid out previously, including in particular in our statement in New York on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Despite the fact that, contrary to previous expectations, the outcome of the much-talked-about "policy review" in Washington is not out yet, the process has moved, and moved forward, for that matter. You have presented your unbracketed text and the whole intergovernmental body has had the chance to study it and engage in informal consultations – under your personal stewardship – in the Hague in late June. We in the Group of 77 and China, as already stated in the Hague just three weeks ago, have been appreciative of your valuable and commendable endeavours, including in proposing the current structure for the negotiations here in Bonn. Let me take the opportunity right here and thank you again for all your untiring efforts, on and off the podium, towards helping this difficult and challenging process.

**Mr. President,**

We are holding this general exchange of views, brief as it is intended to be, after a three-day intensive negotiations at the expert level. This morning we had the chance to take stock of the state of affairs. I presume it would be rather safe to express a general sense of satisfaction with the process thus far. The positive negotiating atmosphere should indeed be reassuring to all of us. More so is the fact that already a couple of important decisions have been made; that is, on guidance to GEF and capacity-building. Good, solid progress is also underway on technology transfer. The Co-Chairs of the four Contact Groups, as well as the Facilitators, deserve a word of deep gratitude and appreciation. Thank you all and keep up the good work.

Notwithstanding the rather advanced stage of negotiations, I find it still useful to underline that, from our point of view, the ultimate aim of this collective enterprise has been, and still continues to be, to fulfill the mandate established by the Buenos Aires Plan of Action. Every effort should be made by all of us here in the resumed COP-6 to strengthen the implementation of the provisions of the Climate Change Convention. And, needless to say, deliberations and negotiations on Kyoto Protocol issues should continue with the same determination, with a view – obviously – to resolving the outstanding issues.

**Mr. President,**

On specific issues, I would like to make some brief and general observations on a number of issues. Starting with mechanisms, we favor three separate decisions for the

three different mechanisms under Articles 6, 12, and 17 of the Kyoto Protocol. Moreover, decisions on the mechanisms must be in conformity with the language of the Protocol. Equity and environmental integrity, as everybody knows, are very dear to the Group. The Group's known position on complementarity and adaptation, including levies on all the three mechanisms, are equally important.

Turning to issues under the purview of Negotiating Group 1, it would hardly come as a surprise that agreement on Articles 4.8, 4.9 and 3.14, adaptation and funding mechanisms would, in our view, constitutes an important part of the final outcome here in Bonn.

As for compliance issues, addressing the legally binding consequences of non-compliance as well as a clear reference to the principles, including the principle of equitable geographical representation of the composition of the Compliance Committee, are fundamental to the Group.

On LULUCF, further negotiations, with due respect for the Group's positions on "principles", are needed on both political and technical aspects.

**Mr. President,**

Coming to the end of the statement of the Group, let me just reiterate, once more, our resolve and commitment to making this session a success. We have come to Bonn with that central, overriding objective. Of course, in pursuing such an objective, we have in mind the concerns and interests of the developing world. And to reach that objective, we are well disposed and fully prepared to work in concert and engage in constructive dialogue and mutually beneficial negotiations with our partners in the North.

The Bonn meeting can embrace success despite the surrounding circumstances. What is needed is political will on the part of the developed North to save and buttress the achievements of a decade-long collective multilateral work on climate change. And this cannot be accomplished except through and with the active cooperation of the developing world. We are here to extend a helping hand to the international community on an important yet sensitive area of global commons. Our developed partners in the North should grasp the opportunity for a real, genuine cooperation, which I am sure will have other important, far-reaching implications for this and other multilateral processes.

I close my statement on this positive note.

Thank you very much, **Mr. President.**

